

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CAIRO 01733 01 OF 02 170043Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SSM-03 ACDA-12 /107 W
-----025672 170853Z /73

R 162340Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4325
INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USMISSION SINAI
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 CAIRO 01733

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EG IS
SUBJECT: THE WEEKEND FLAP

SUMMARY: ALL PAPERS JAN 16 HEADLINE WEEKEND "CRISIS"
OVER AGENDA. U.S. MEDIATION ROLE VIEWED AS CRUCIAL TO
RESOLVING DISPUTE; PRESIDENT CARTER'S ROLE POSITIVE.
ISRAELI "INTRANSIGENCE" HAS CAUSED EGYPTIANS VIEW JER-
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 CAIRO 01733 01 OF 02 170043Z

USALEM MEETING WITH CAUTION: QUESTION STILL OUT WHETHER
BEGIN WILL SEIZE OPPORTUNITY TO ESTABLISH PEACE. SADAT'S S
CLOSEST ADVISORS, FEARING ISRAEL WILL NOT RESPOND POS-
ITIVELY HAVE URGED SADAT TO BREAK OFF NEGOTIATIONS. END
SUMMARY.

1. SCENARIO. PRESS JAN 16 GIVES EXTENSIVE COVERAGE TO

EVENTS OF PAST 48 HOURS, HIGHLIGHTING "GRAVE DEVELOPMENTS WHICH THREATEN JERUSALEM TALKS." PRESS NOTES URGENT AND . INTENSIVE CONTACTS HELD THROUGHOUT SATURDAY NIGHT BETWEEN , AMBASSADOR AND VP MUBARAK, WITH SADAT KEPT CONTINUALLY . INFORMED. U.S. DRAFT AGENDA SUBMITTED WHEN IT BECAME APPARENT EGYPT AND ISRAEL UNABLE RECONCILE DIFFERENCES. THIS DRAFT WAS COMMUNICATED TO SADAT EARLY SUNDAY MORN- ING; HE ACCEPTED IT; ISRAELIS REFUSED GO ALONG.

2. VANCE'S POSTPONEMENT. SECRETARY'S PUBLIC ANNOUNCE- MENT OF POSTPONEMENT HIS TRIP TO JERUSALEM VIEWED AS KEY TO BREAKING AGENDA LOG JAM. FOLLOWING ANNOUNCEMENT, ISRAELI CABINET HELD EMERGENCY SESSION TO APPROVE AMENDED VERSION AMERICAN DRAFT, WHICH THEN COMMUNICATED TO CAIRO THROUGH EMBASSY. SADAT PUT REVISED DRAFT BEFORE EGYPT'S NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL AND OBTAINED APPROVAL--BUT WITH DIFFICULTY. (SEE BELOW) DURING NSC MEETING, KING HUSSEIN TELEPHONED HIS "COMPLETE SUPPORT" FOR SADAT POSITION.

3. AGENDA. GUMHURIYYA LEARNED (SIC) THAT AMERICAN PROPOSED AGENDA INCLUDES FOLLOWING POINTS:

- SET OF BASIC PRINCIPLES
- NATURE OF PEACE
- WEST BANK AND GAZA

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 CAIRO 01733 01 OF 02 170043Z

- TERMINATION OF OCCUPATION
- IMPLEMENTATION OF UNSC RESOLUTION 242.

ACCORDING PRESS, IMPASSE PARTIALLY INVOLVED ISRAELI INSISTENCE TOP AGENDA WITH SETTLEMENTS QUESTION. THIS DROPPED ONLY FOLLOWING U.S. INTERVENTION AND QUESTION WILL BE LEFT TO MILITARY SUBCOMMITTEE (WHERE, IN EGYPTIAN VIEW, IT WILL BE DEBATED IN CONTEXT WITHDRAWAL).

4. FIRST SESSION. PAPERS REPORT FIRST SESSION JERUSALEM TALKS WILL BE HELD TOMORROW, JAN 17, BEGINNING AT 10 A.M. T.V. COVERAGE WILL BE LIVE. EGYPTIAN, ISRAELI AND AMERICAN DELEGATES WILL MAKE PREPARED STATEMENTS; GENERAL SIILASVUO WILL BE THERE AS OBSERVER. PAPERS NOTE SECRETARY EXPECTED TO COME TO CAIRO THURSDAY OR FRIDAY.

5. MILITARY SUBCOMMITTEE. AHRAH, WITH EXCLUSIVE GAMASY INTERVIEW, REPORTS CONTACTS UNDER WAY TO FIX DATE FOR RESUMPTION MILITARY SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS "EARLY NEXT WEEK". IN INTERVIEW GAMASY REPEATED ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS IN SINAI MUST GO, NOTING HE HAD AGREED WITH WEIZMAN ON STATIONING UN TROOPS IN BUFFER ZONE AND CREATION

DEMILITARIZED AREAS. AT SAME TIME, PAPERS (INCLUDING AHRAH) REPORT REMAINING MEMBERS ISRAELI DELEGATION TO DEPART CAIRO TODAY, WITH RESUMPTION MILITARY SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS DEPENDING ON OUTCOME JERUSALEM TALKS. (LATTER REPORT ACCURATE. EGYPTIANS ARE UNWILLING RESCHEDULE MILITARY TALKS UNTIL THEY HAVE READING GROM JERUSALEM.)

6. NO MORE STATEMENTS. INFORMATION MINISTRY SPOKESMAN SAID JAN 15 THAT, IN "ORDER CREATE PROPER CLIMATE EOR JERUSALEM DISCUSSIONS", NO MORE STATEMENTS WILL BE ISSUED. ONLY EXCEPTION WILL BE THOSE STATEMENTS "NECESSITATED BY NATIONAL INTERESTS AND ATTRIBUTED TO RESPONSIBLE SOURCES." (IN THIS CONNECTION, IT INTERESTING NOTE THAT SADAT'S OCTOBER INTERVIEW WAS NOT RPT NOT RECONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 CAIRO 01733 01 OF 02 170043Z

PRINTED IN ANY OF DAILIES, NOR WAS IT TAKE-OFF POINT FOR SUBSEQUENT EDITORIAL COMMENT. WORD CLEARLY OUT TO

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CAIRO 01733 02 OF 02 170046Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SSM-03 ACDA-12 /107 W
-----025722 170202Z /73

R 162340Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4326
INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY SANA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USMISSION SINAI
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 CAIRO 01733

EGYPTIAN JOURNALISTS TO COOL IT.)

7. EDITORIALS. ALL PAPERS EDITORIALIZED SIMILARLY TO EFFECT FUTURE OF PEACE PROCESS NOW UP TO ISRAEL. AHRAM, TYPICALLY, SAYS SADAT OFFERED ISRAEL SECURITY IN RETURN FOR RESTORATION OF LAND. PRESIDENT OFFERED ACCEPT ISRAEL LIVE IN PEACE IN RETURN FOR SOLVING PALESTINIAN PROBLEM. HOWEVER, ISRAEL IMAGINING IT CAN TAKE WITHOUT CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 CAIRO 01733 02 OF 02 170046Z

GIVING ANYTHING IN RETURN. AHRAM WARNS SHOULD OPPORTUNITY BE MISSED, ISRAEL WILL BEAR RESPONSIBILITY FOR KILLING PEACE AND "ASSASSINATION" WILL TAKE PLACE AT TOMORROW'S MEETING IN JERUSALEM.

8. AKHBAR. AKHBAR GIVES PRIMARY CREDIT TO PRESIDENT CARTER FOR RECOGNIZING GRAVITY OF SITUATION AND PRAISES RECENT PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENTS ON DANGERS, SHOULD SADAT'S INITIATIVE FAIL. AKHBAR, AS WELL AS OTHER TWO DAILIES, RIDICULES ISRAELI DEMANDS MAINTAIN SETTLEMENTS IN SINAI.

9. COMMENT. MUBARAK TOLD AMBASSADOR NSC SESSION MENTIONED PARA 2 ABOVE WAS DIFFICULT. MEMBERS, WHO FOR FIRST TIME INCLUDED HASSAN TUHAMI, WERE OPPOSED TO CONTINUING NEGOTIATIONS AT THIS TIME. IN THEIR VIEW, SADAT ALREADY HAS GIVEN TOO MANY CONCESSIONS, RECEIVING NOTHING IN RETURN. CONSENSUS IN NSC REPORTEDLY WAS TO SUSPEND PEACE PROCESS, AT LEAST TEMPORARILY, TO DEMONSTRATE TO ISRAEL THAT IT MUST BE MORE RESPONSIVE IF IT EXPECTS SETTLEMENT.

10. EGYPTIAN LEADERSHIP HAS BEEN GENUINELY SHOCKED BY ISRAEL'S POSITION ON SETTLEMENTS AND AIRFIELDS IN SINAI. FOLLOWING ISMAILIA, EGYPTIANS THOUGHT RESOLUTION OF SINAI ISSUES WOULD BE EASY; TROUBLES WOULD COME WHEN QUESTION OF WEST BANK AND GAZA ADDRESSED. THEY NOW ARE FACING WHAT, TO THEM, REPRESENTS INTRANSIGENCE AND RENEGING ON SINAI. IN THEIR VIEW, THIS DOES NOT BODE WELL FOR FUTURE. SHOULD JERUSALEM TALKS PROVE UNPRODUCTIVE, PEACE PROCESS, AT LEAST IN ITS CURRENT FORM, COULD COME TO GRINDING HALT. EILTS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, MEETING AGENDA, PEACE TALKS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978CAIRO01733
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780024-0634
Format: TEL
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780161/aaaabyzt.tel
Line Count: 223
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 469b63e3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3771633
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: THE WEEKEND FLAP SUMMARY: ALL PAPERS JAN 16 HEADLINE WEEKEND \"CRISIS\" OVER AGENDA. U.S. MEDIATION ROLE VIEWED AS CRUCIAL
TAGS: SOPN, PGOV, PDEV, EG, IS
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/469b63e3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014